

Kindly enter the following amendments to the claims.

Claim 1 (cancelled)

Claim 2 (currently amended)

A composition according to claim 15 wherein said noble gas is argon.

Claim 3 (currently amended)

A composition according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 15 wherein said microorganism is anthrax bacterium, *Bacillus anthracis*.

Claim 4 (currently amended)

A composition according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 15 wherein said microorganism is Norwalk or Norwalk-like viruses.

Claim 5 (currently amended)

A composition according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 15 wherein said microorganism is Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome virus.

Claim 6 (currently amended)

A composition according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 15 wherein said microorganism is *Legionellae*.

Claim 7 (currently amended)

A composition according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 15 wherein said microorganism is mold and mold spores.

Claim 8 (original)

A composition according to claim 2 wherein said ratio of argon:chlorine in said mixture is 20:1.

Claim 9 (currently amended)

A composition according to claim 2 wherein said chlorine is present in an amount of about ~~[[0.1]]~~ 1.0 to 3%.

Claim 10 (cancelled)

Claim 11 (cancelled)

Claim 12 (withdrawn)

A method for removing microorganisms which comprises introducing an effective amount of a composition according to claim 1 into the air in a room, building, ship, county jail, shelter, hospital, clinic, nursing home, rehabilitation facility, restaurant, school, hotel or HVAC system and the like, where said microorganisms are located, allowing the composition to remain for a time sufficient to substantially completely eliminate said microorganisms and then ventilating said room, building, ship, jail, shelter, hospital, clinic, nursing home, rehabilitation facility, restaurant, school, hotel or HVAC system..

Claim 13 (withdrawn)

A method for removing microorganisms which comprises introducing an effective amount of a composition according to claim 2 into the air in a room, building, ship, county jail, shelter, hospital, clinic, nursing home, rehabilitation facility, restaurant, school, hotel or HVAC system and the like, where said microorganisms are located, allowing the composition to remain for a time sufficient to substantially completely eliminate said microorganisms and then ventilating said room, building, ship or HVAC system and the like.

Claim 14 (withdrawn)

A method according to claim 12 wherein said argon and chlorine are admixed directly before their use.

Claim 15 (new)

A composition effective against microorganism and other pest organisms comprising a dispersion of chlorine gas in a noble gas formed by mixing the gases directly before use wherein said chlorine is present in said dispersion in a ratio of 20:1 (argon:chlorine).